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"Paris, 27th -- HUMANITE reports that 'it was learned from Anglo-Saxon sources that the United States warships would shortly pay a friendship visit to the French Fleet at one of the southern ports. The 'friendly visit' is in the spirit of those that were made to Greece and Italy. It is characteristic that no official denial followed this report. Silence is a sign of assent'.

"On 25th January,' continues HUMANITE, 'started the landing of United States Marines at Bari (South Italy). On the appeal of trade unions, Italian workers organised numerous manifestations at Taranto, Brindisi and Bari. As a sign of protest it was decided to carry out a five-minute strike.

"According to HUMANITE, the concentration of the United States Navy in the Mediterranean is connected with the recent military negotiations between the representatives of London and Washington. Quoting the English Sunday Dispatch, HUMANITE enumerates the decisions which were allegedly reached:

1. Reinforcement of United States and British Naval Forces in the Mediterranean.
2. Organisation of several air bases in Northern Africa.
3. Dispatch to Greece of reinforcements consisting of British air and land units and United States Marines.
4. Organisation of new British military bases in Cyprus."

The above intercept was forwarded to Asst. Director for Ops. for information.

PKE
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